

REMARKS

By the present response, Applicants have amended the specification in order to refer to related application No. 09/739,691. Claims 1, 3, 4 and 6-13 remain pending in the present application.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, and the amendments and remarks submitted with the October 19, 2004 Amendment, Applicants submit that claims 1, 3, 4 and 6-13 are now in condition for allowance. Early allowance of such claims is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Mattingly, Stanger & Malur, P.C., Deposit Account No. 50-1417 (referencing attorney docket no. 500.39531X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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